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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

GLOBAL LEARNING AND EVIDENCE EXCHANGE
CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

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Extension and Advisory Services for CSA

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OVERVIEW

- Nutrition-Sensitive Integrated Homestead Pond Polyculture
- Approach developed in Bangladesh for increasing household income and improving nutrition: pond polyculture of large and small fish species; vegetable production on pond dykes and in homestead gardens; behavior change communication and nutrition education for increased fish and vegetable consumption; gender equity
- Extension and advisory systems and services to support approach: designed and implemented in partnership with government, NGOs and private sector



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EXTENSION AND ADVISORY SYSTEM

- Engaging lead farmers: females and males
- Group training, discussions and demonstrations: females and males, together and separately, on all components of the approach
- Limited household visits
- Self-monitoring of activities and production
- Limited monitoring and evaluation



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EXTENSION AND ADVISORY SERVICES

- Provision of inputs for one production season: large fish fingerlings, small fish brood stock, vegetable seeds
- Training and demonstrations for groups and household members on increased production and consumption of fish and vegetables, especially in the first 1000 days of life.
- Training and supervision for self-monitoring of activities and outputs
- Facilitating contacts to government and private sector services



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EXTENSION AND ADVISORY CHALLENGES FOR CSA

- Recruiting female field staff
- Male staff embracing a nutrition-sensitive integrated approach
- Limited contact of project staff at household level
- Short-term project – one production season per year



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EXTENSION AND ADVISORY OPPORTUNITIES FOR CSA

- Family-based approach
- Addressing multiple essential needs of family members
- Non-traditional partnerships between different sectors
- Linking food production to improved nutrition and health



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CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

- Design and implement long-term, integrated development programs
- Develop appropriate approaches for the poor
- Conduct robust, comprehensive evaluation
- Promote inter-country and regional collaboration: adoption, adaptation and scaling of successful approaches





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